

12. *South African Hispinae from the South African Museum, Cape Town.* 43. *Contribution to a knowledge of the Hispinae (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae).*—By E. UHMANN, Stollberg-Erzg.

(Translated from the German manuscript.)

IN response to my request for material for the study of South African Hispinae, the above Museum forwarded, through Dr. Hesse, numerous Hispinae for examination. A large number of specimens of these, as well as of others not dealt with below, were put into my hands. For this material and for the supplementary information concerning various types I am very greatly obliged.

NEW SPECIES.

1. *Callispa hessei*, Portuguese East Africa.
2. *Callispa nyakaënsis*, Portuguese East Africa.
3. *Dactylispa viatoris*, Rhodesia.
4. *Hispia (Thoracispa) hessei*, Cape Province.
5. *Platypria nodifera* Spaeth, Transvaal.

SYNONYMS.

Pseudhispella consobrina Pér. belongs to *Polyconia spinicornis* Kr.

1. *Callispa hessei* n. sp.

Ovata, fulva, nitida, antennis nigris ad basim fulvescentibus. Capite laevi, prothorace transverso a basi antrorsum rotunde angustato, utrinque lateraliter indistincte impresso, ibi crebre, ceterum sparse punctato; elytris ovatis, convexis, subregulariter punctato-striatis, punctis ante apicem et extus non latioribus, serie marginali exili. Long. 6 mm.

It appears to resemble *C. bottegoi* Gest., a species unknown to me, but certainly differs from it by the oval and not parallel shape and the uniform strength of the rows of punctures on the elytra.

In contour it comes nearest to *kilimana* Kolbe and *silacea* Ws., but is much more coarsely punctured, has stouter antennae, and the head is medially obtusangularly produced between the antennae,

whereas in the species mentioned the head in front is triangularly produced across its entire breadth.

Antennae stout and short, scarcely reaching the posterior margin of the prothorax; joint 3 longer than 2; seen from the narrow side 4 is equal to 5, and is as long as broad; the rest of the joints, excepting the pointed 11th joint, slightly transverse, scarcely differing from each other; joints 5 to 10 become progressively more transverse seen from the broad side. Prothorax with sharp posterior angles, forward from these rounded and narrowed; anterior angles acutely projecting; the sides finely margined; laterally slightly and feebly depressed, covered with fairly strong scattered punctures, which are denser in the region of the lateral depressions. Scutellum smooth, triangular. Elytra with 11 almost regular rows of punctures, of which only the 11th on the lateral margin is very fine, with the punctures in the rest of the rows almost all equal in size; row 1 linear; rows 6 and 7 present only in the posterior half of elytra.

Three specimens. Portuguese East Africa: Lourenço Marques, 18/7/08.

2. *Callispa nyakaënsis* n. sp.

Elongata, parallela, nitida, nigro-cyanea, pedibus abdomineque rufo-testaceis. Capite subtilissime punctulato, triangulariter producto; prothorace transverso, lateraliter leviter, ante scutum profunde impresso, sparse punctato; scuto laevi, pentagonali; elytris parallelis, post humeros impressis, regulariter punctato-striatis, striis a sutura marginem versus punctis fortioribus, stria undecima subtilissima. Long. 5-5.5 mm.

Similar to *C. rufiventris* Uh.; the legs, however, yellow; the body more shiny; the head broadly triangularly produced in front, as in *kilimana* Kolbe and *silacea* Ws.; in *rufiventris* it is simply triangularly pointed.

Very dark blue, smooth, shining; abdomen and legs orange. Head very finely punctured, the extension in front truncated; antennae moderately short, reaching to middle of prothorax, moderately stout, with the basal joints elongate, those towards apex transverse. Prothorax transverse; the sides rounded and narrowed, finely margined; anterior angles not projecting; the disk on each side posteriorly and laterally feebly depressed, with a distinct and deep depression in front of scutellum, with scattered punctures, smooth anteriorly. Scutellum smooth, pentagonal. Elytra parallel, convex, with a shallow, irregular depression behind the shoulders, with 11 regular

rows of punctures, the innermost linearly impressed; the inner rows with fine punctures, towards the sides the punctures in the rows become progressively coarser; row 11 very fine, directly on the lateral margin; rows 5 and 6 begin only at the middle of the elytra.

Three specimens. Portuguese East Africa: Nyaka, 11/1924 (R. F. Lawrence).

3. *Callispa umtalina* Pér. The author states "Tota nigra." Dr. Hesse kindly informs me that the type has a reddish-brown abdomen.

4. *Oncocephala promontorii* Pér. One specimen. South-West Africa: Tsumeb (R. Tucker, December 1919).

5. *Balyana sculptilis* Fairm. Seven specimens. Rhodesia: Sebakwe (D. Dods, 1901).

6. *Pseudhispella militaris* Ws. Five specimens. Rhodesia: Sebakwe.

7. *Pseudhispella consobrina* Pér. Of this species, Dr. Hesse kindly informs me that "there are three specimens, all labelled as types, two from Rhodesia (Sebakwe), and one from the Transvaal (Shilouvane, ex Pér.), of which the last specimen only still has antennae." From the description and figure forwarded to me it follows that this species belongs to *Polyconia*. A comparison with my material of *Polyconia spinicornis* Kr. from the Congo and Cameroons convinces me that *consobrina* is identical with *spinicornis*, and has to be considered as a synonym of it. Two specimens from the Transvaal (Kaapmuiden, R. W. Tucker, 30/10/1918) have been kindly presented to me. They are smaller than my smallest specimens of *spinicornis* from the Cameroons (Uam region). In other respects no specific differences are to be detected.

8. *Dorcathispa alternata* Ws. One specimen each from Portuguese East Africa: Masiene, December 1923, and Inhambane, January 1924 (R. F. Lawrence); one specimen from Rhodesia: Bulawayo, May 17 (R. Tucker).

9. *Dorcathispa extrema* Pér. One specimen from East Transvaal: Komati Poort, November 1918 (R. Tucker); one specimen, South-West Africa: Tsintsobis, January 1920 (R. Tucker); one specimen, Transvaal: Kaapmuiden, 30/10/1918 (R. Tucker); one specimen from Portuguese East Africa: Lourenço Marques, 1911 (T. B. Paulus).

10. *Dactylispa bodongi* Uh. According to the material before me, this species, outside Portuguese East Africa (Beira), also occurs in Zululand, Cape Province (Dunbrody), and in the Transvaal (Pretoria, Komati Poort, and Acornhoek).

11. *Dactylispa sulcata* Chap. One specimen each from the Cape

Flats, 16th December (C. G. H.); Paarl, September 1901 (C. G. H.); Stellenbosch.

12. *Dactylispa gracilis* Pér. Three specimens from Southern Rhodesia (Salisbury), and one specimen from Bulawayo.

13. *Dactylispa perfida* Pér. One specimen from Portuguese East Africa: Nyaka 11/24 (R. F. Lawrence); and 4 specimens from North-East Transvaal: Louis Trichardt, 12/18 (R. Tucker).

14. *Dactylispa pretiosula* Pér. One specimen from Rhodesia: Sebakwe (O. Dods). In my key in "Rev. Zool. Bot. Afr., xxi, 1931," pp. 154 and 155, it comes after *hirsuta* Gest. Intervals 4 and 6 broad, carinate; rows 5 and 6 curved outwards.

15. *Dactylispa viatoris* n. sp. (Pér. in coll.).

Oblonga, nitida, rufo-testacea, prothorace utrinque macula parva nigra, spinis dorsalibus elytrorum nigris, ceteris in apice nigris, prosterno in medio, metasterno fere in totum nigris. Antennis ad apicem vix incrassatis, articulo primo incrassato; vertice opaco, declivi, collo nitido; prothorace dense flavo-sericeo, fere plano, spinis lateralibus 2, 1, duabus anticis inaequalibus, basi subconjunctis; elytris oblongis, regulariter punctato-striatis, tenuissime pilosis, spinis longis, validis, brevissimis intermixtis, in margine apicali abbreviatis. Long. 6, lat. 2.5 mm.

This species, from the hairs on the prothorax, reminds one of *pubicollis* Chap., but has, unlike this species, not smooth elytra, but a small, yellowish hair in each puncture. It is to be placed near *echinata* Gyll., from which it differs in size and the finer hairs on the elytra.

Reddish-brown; pro- and metasternum black in part; prothorax on each side with a black spot. Head with the vertex plane and flat, with only a short groove posteriorly, with golden yellow hairs on eye margins, steeply sloping to the shining neck; clypeus longer than broad, wrinkled, distinctly carinate between the eyes. Antennae half as long as the body, not compressed, scarcely thickened apically; joint 1 stout, twice as long as thick; 2 scarcely half as long as 1; 3 as long as 1; 4-6 becoming progressively shorter, with 6 one and a half times as long as broad; 7 a little longer than 6; 8-10 of equal size, each only slightly longer than broad. Prothorax transverse, wrinkled and punctured, smooth along the middle line and on the black spots, densely covered with golden yellow hairs as in *pubicollis*; spines 2 and 1 on lateral margins, with the two front ones very close together, scarcely separated at the basis, the first shorter than the second, with

the third free spine large, half as long as the second. Elytra twice as long as broad, regularly punctato-striate; rows 9 and 10 shortly connected in the middle, in each puncture a fine small golden-yellowish hair; discal spines stout and long, everywhere intermixed with very short ones; interval 2 with 5 spines (2 before and 3 behind the middle); interval 4 with 3 spines (1 at the level of the shoulders, 1 in the middle and 1 in front of the last spine on interval 2); interval 6 with 4 spines on the humeral callus, a 5th immediately behind it, a 6th at the middle next to the 2nd spine on interval 4 in front of the distinct depression, a 7th behind the depression between the 3rd and 4th spines on interval 2; interval 8 with one spine on the outer angle almost next to the last spine on interval 6; spines on lateral margins numerous (12-15), almost as long as those on the disk; spines on the hind margin short, triangular.

Two specimens labelled with an upper label * "A. C. W. Mally, Agrl. Dept., Grahamstown, Cape Colony, 5/12/10," and a lower label, "J. B. Greathead, Fort Jamieson, N.E. Rhodesia, 23/8/10."

16. *Dactylispa discreta* Ws. Two specimens each from Portuguese East Africa: Nyaka, Masiene and Inhambane; Natal: Malvern.

17. *Dactylispa pubicollis* Chap. (*dissimilis* Pér.). One specimen each from Natal: Malvern; Transvaal: Louis Trichardt (R. F. Lawrence, 1/11/28); Portuguese East Africa: Nyaka (R. F. Lawrence, 11/24).

18. *Trichispa sericea* Guér. Four specimens from Natal: Durban (C. N. Barker, 24/10/18).

19. *Hispa (Chrysispa) fera* Ws. Two specimens from Zululand: Mfongosi (W. E. Jones, 3/17). New for South Africa.

20. *Hispa traversii* Gest. Twelve specimens from Portuguese East Africa: Nyaka (R. F. Lawrence, 11/1924). This species, described from Abyssinia, has a wide distribution. I have also been able to record it from the Congo and Lower Guinea.

21. *Hispa ovampoa* Pér. One of the specimens presented to me (N. Rhodesia: Pemba, Father Casse, 1917) resembles a *quadrifida* Gerst. The elytra, however, have a bronzy lustre. Unfortunately the antennae are wanting, so that it is impossible to establish whether they afford yet another character for the separation of the two species.

22. *Hispa melancholica* Ws. One specimen from Mashonaland:

* The upper label is not a locality label but merely signifies that the specimen is from Dr. Mally's collection when he was in the Agricultural Department. The true locality of the species is thus Fort Jamieson, N. Rhodesia.—EDITOR.

Salisbury (G. A. Marshall, 1894) Ex cotypo; elytra brownish-metallic, certainly immature. Supposed by Péringuey to be a new species *pulchella* (nom. in coll.).

23. *Hispa indubia* Pér. Three specimens from Transvaal and 1 specimen from Rhodesia: Sebakwe. This species is very similar to *bennigseni* Ws., and most likely only a southern race of it. It differs by the much shorter elytral spines; particularly short are the spines on intervals 2 and 4 and along the lateral margins. In my key (Mitt. Mus. Berl., 1931 (32), p. 884), it comes after *stuhmanni* Uh., with the contrasting character: the 4 spines on the lateral margins of prothorax forming a cross.

24. *Hispa approximans* Pér. One specimen from Southern Rhodesia: Penkridge, 3/28.

25. *Hispa eximia* Pér. Five specimens from Transvaal: Pretoria (1/4/1918, Dr. Brauns).

26. *Hispa pavidia* Ws. One specimen each from South-West Africa: Nuragas (January 1920, R. W. Tucker); Southern Rhodesia: Salisbury (May 1917, R. Tucker). Both these specimens are a little more slender than the typical forms from German East Africa.

27. *Hispa malvernica* Pér. Two specimens from Natal: Scottburg (K. Barnard), and 1 specimen from Malvern. To be placed after *H. caffra* Ws.

28. *Hispa ramulosa* Chap. One specimen each from Stellenbosch (L. Péringuey), Hottentot's Holland Mts., 4000 feet, Caledon, C.P. (K. Barnard, 1916). Besides these there are 2 totally dark brown, immature specimens.

29. *Hispa (Eutrichispa) gebieni* Uh. Fourteen specimens from Portuguese East Africa: Lourenço Marques (J. B. Paulus, 1911); 1 specimen from Bushmanland: Henkries (Lightfoot).

30. *Hispa (Thoracispa) hessei* n. sp.

Elongata, brunnea, spinis a medio ad apicem infuscatis; antennis gracilibus, vix incrassatis; prothorace laevi, subopaco, lateribus valde lobatis, lobo spinulis multis radiatim digestis; elytris subdepressis, nitidulis, subregulariter punctato-striatis, in singulo elytro tribus seriebus dorsalibus spinarum multarum, longarum, gracilium, margine laterali spinis multis longis longitudine dorsalium, margine apicali brevioribus. Long. 4.5 mm.

To be placed next to *H. brunni* Ws. Brownish; spines darkened from their middle to apex. Head round; eyes small, oval, only half as long as the temples; vertex and clypeus smooth, lustreless, the last

finely carinate; neck not demarcated; antennae slender, only feebly thickened towards apex; joint 1 short, twice as long as broad; 2 only half as long as 1; 3 thin, scarcely three times as long as 2; 4 is equal to 5, each shorter than 3; 6 shorter than 5; 7 about as long as 6; 8, 9, and 10 equal, each somewhat longer than broad and shorter than 7; 11 longer by its apex than 10. Prothorax a little longer than broad; the apical margin convex and ciliated; the posterior angles acutely produced; the disk dull and shagreened, without depressions; lateral lobes large, with about 30 long, slender spines, in an arc along their lateral margins, the spines being as long as the disk is broad. The spines along hind margin of lobes in a single row, anteriorly in a double divergent row; the innermost spine on the anterior margin is curved and directed backwards and upwards. Scutellum fairly large, triangular, dully shagreened. Elytra elongate, broadened and rounded behind the shoulders, with 8 almost regular rows of punctures; with an interposed row of punctures between rows 5 and 6 posteriorly; depressions wanting; the straight intervals slightly carinate. On closer examination 4 rows of spines may be distinguished instead of 3 rows; interval 1 with 5 spines, of which the first is just before the middle and the second behind the middle; interval 2 with about 7 spines, which are already long from the base onwards; interval 4 with more than 10 spines; interval 6 with up to 20 and elytral margins with about 30 spines, with the spines crowded on interval 6 and along the lateral margin. All the elytral spines vary in length, the longest are as long as one elytron is broad; the spines on the posterior margin slightly shorter than those on the lateral margins.

Two specimens from Hottentot's Holland Mts., 4000 feet altitude, Caledon district (K. H. Barnard, January 1916).

31. *Platypria nigrospinosa* Fairm. (*mashonana* Pér.). One specimen each from Salisbury (1913, J. O'Neil); Salisbury: Arcturus (1916, Dr. Melle).

32. *Platypria natalensis* Gest. (Pér. in coll. of Ann. Mus. Civ. Gen., 3, 1 (xli), 1905, p. 516, fig.). Two specimens from Malvern; 1 specimen from Natal: Durban (Bell Marley). One specimen from Southern Rhodesia: Umtali (A. Bodong, 1902).

33. *Platypria nodifera* Spaeth, n. sp.

Reddish-yellow; the first two antennae joints, the prosternum, the pectoral region and its lateral parts, the abdomen with the exception of a broad outer border, two round spots next to each

other in the transverse furrow in front of the base of prothorax, the scutellum and all tubercular prominences and lateral spines on the elytra, black.

The contour rectangular, twice as long as broad, with almost parallel sides. Antennae strikingly short, about reaching the base of the prothorax; joint 2 globular; 3 a little more than twice as long, as long as 4 and 5 combined; 4 about a fourth longer than 5, this and the following not longer than thick; 9 twice as long as thick; 7-9 slightly thickened. Prothorax with 5 spines on each side, all, excepting the last, almost equally long, the larger ones with a slightly darkened apex; the disk transversely depressed posteriorly, almost dully, with the punctures distinct only on the dark spots. The humeral lobes of the elytra are scarcely broadened and carry 4 spines; then follows a short, shallow emargination; the middle lateral spine which follows is a little farther separated from both the neighbouring ones; after this follow 8 spines, so that altogether 13 spines are present on each side; all 13 are short, hardly more than half as long again as thick, the 2 last ones at the most slightly shorter; each elytron with 3 spines on the shoulders and about 14 tubercles on the disk, 4 each on the slightly carinate intervals 2 and 4, two on 6, and four very small ones on the 8th interval; of those on interval 2 the first one is a little before and the second one behind the middle, and the third and fourth on the declivity; those on interval 4 always stand obliquely behind those on interval 2; all these protuberances are small, low, and tubercular, the first two on the inner two intervals, and the first one on interval 3 a little larger; lateral expansions of elytra very narrow, and with the black thickened parts of the spines continued to its inner margin. $5 \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

British Museum; Transvaal: Pretoria (22/10/1921). Two types.

South African Museum; Transvaal: Mulder's Drift (5/11/1905). One specimen.